

# The GARZETTE

September 2006

Volume 15, Issue 9



W4GR

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## From the President's Desk:

Norm Schklar WA4ZXV

Thanks to everyone that supported or worked at the dog show. That could be working there, helping recruit, or just good ole moral support. For those that were on site, I had several complements on how good a job we did. The weather sort of cooperated. It was hot, we had a little cloud cover, but it didn't rain. We'll be sure to put the donations to good use.

Lightning has been playing havoc with a lot of us the past few months. It seems these thunderstorms that bring us the precious rain, just don't like all the wire and towers hanging in the air. I'm not sure if we're more likely to have damage with an antenna on the outside of the dwelling, as I've always had one, but several of my friends without outside antennas are having lightning damage also. So maybe it's not a HAM thing. One thing is for sure, having a common ground for all of your equipment is important. It seems that the codes for a good ground for electrical service have changed. Instead of the 8 ft rod, some systems are requiring 16ft or so. They have a gadget for rent at the home supply stores to help drive one of those rods. Lightning isn't something we can just forget about, it's there and it's dangerous.

**TechFest** isn't all that far away. We need to start a list of who's doing what for the tables and demonstrations. So if you plan to bring your favorite mode or piece of HAM radio, let Ray, KI4GRJ or David, KA4KKF know, so we can keep from having duplicates. This should be the best **TechFest** ever. If you have questions about **TechFest**, review the information on the web site or give one of us a call.

Planning a program for each meeting is not as simple as it may seem. We all need to give a big thanks to Dave, W4DTR for finding interesting subjects and great presenters.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the September 12th meeting when **Megan Jackson** will be presenting **Radio Astronomy**.

Once again, thanks to all the fine folks that make this organization fun and interesting.

### **Metro Atlanta Club Meetings**

#### **First Tuesday**

#### **Kennehoochee ARC**

Southern Polytechnic State University  
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM  
Talk In 146.880(-)

#### **Second Monday** **Georgia Tech ARC**

Room W218  
Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg.  
Georgia Tech Campus  
Meeting at 7:00 PM

#### **First Thursday**

#### **Atlanta Radio Club**

Georgia Red Cross HQ  
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta  
Meeting is at 7:30 PM  
Talk In -146.820(-)

#### **N.E. Georgia ARC**

Commerce Public Library  
Meeting is at 6:30 PM  
Talk In - 147.225(+)  
PL 123.0

#### **Second Thursday**

#### **Alford Memorial Radio Club**

Annistown Road Baptist Church  
Intersection of Annistown Rd & Spain Rd  
Stone Mountain  
Dinner at 6:00 PM  
Meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

#### **Third Thursday**

#### **North Fulton Amateur Radio League**

Southern Skillet  
1037 Alpharetta St., Roswell  
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 145.47(-)

#### **First Saturday**

#### **North GA QRP Club**

Wieuca Baptist Church on Peachtree Rd/Wieuca, 10 AM

### **Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule**

**GARS** publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at [www.arrl-ga.org](http://www.arrl-ga.org)

#### **First Saturday, Even Months**

9:00AM  
EOC Building  
Butch Nitz, AF4FS (770) 968-8780

#### **First Wednesday**

7:00 PM  
ARRL/VEC  
Roberts School  
4681 School Street,  
Acworth  
Jodi Escher AG4BK  
770-387-1591

#### **Second Tuesday**

7:00PM  
Walton EMC  
3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville  
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA  
(770)498-7759

#### **Second Saturday, Odd Months**

ARRL VEC  
8:30 AM  
Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St.  
Stone Mountain  
Bob Varone, W4ETN  
(770)978-3179

#### **Third Saturday**

CA VEC  
9:00AM  
Marietta First United Methodist Church  
Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave  
Marietta  
David Still, WB4RRD  
(770) 973-2566

#### **Fourth Tuesday**

ARRL VEC  
7:00 PM  
United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville

#### **Third Sunday**

W5YI VEC  
3:00 – 5:00 PM  
St. John Neumann Church  
801 Tom Smith Road Lilburn  
Headphones Provided! Howie Gould,  
W9HG (770)921-8362

#### **Fourth Sunday**

2:30 PM  
Georgia Tech Student Center  
Room 301  
David Ziskind, KE4QLH  
(404) 966-6864

### **GARS Communication System**

#### **6 Meter Repeater**

53.110 (-1 MHz)  
82.5 PL Tone

#### **2 Meter Repeater**

147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

#### **70 Cm Repeater**

444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

#### **APRS**

144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR/Relay

#### **Main Repeater Site**

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

#### **Backup Repeater Site**

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

#### **Remote Receive Sites**

Bogan Road, Buford  
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross  
Lanier Mountain, Snellville





Working the Front Gate



Thanks for your support.

It was a great weekend at the dog show.

Thanks go out to everyone who came and help.

September - Radio Astronomy

October - Venture Crew 73

November - TBA

December - Christmas Party

## THE SUPER RADIO

It is frustrating to try to break through a pile up with a 100 watt rig and a dipole antenna. I don't know if I'm being heard or not. Sometimes it takes hours and, as rewarding as it is to finally get through, I'd like to do it without jeopardizing my marriage or losing sleep. For a long time I thought I could help the problem with a better antenna. A vertical would give a better take off angle and a higher mounted dipole or beam would be directional, but now I have a better idea.

I want an old World War II radio. I want one like Richard Burton used in *Where Eagles Dare*. In the days before SSB or transistors Richard Burton parachuted into the Austrian Alps with a portable, tube type radio that not only survived the jump but, after being hidden beneath the snow for hours and using dry cell batteries and a 3 foot telescoping antenna made direct voice contact with London, some 1200 miles away, at night on the first attempt. He did this during the bottom of the sun spot cycle with no audible QRM or QSB. Think how much easier it would be to work that rare DX with a rig like that!

This might be the same rig Gregory Peck's team used in *The Guns of Navarone*. It was portable rig with a telescoping antenna and it made voice contact with London from the eastern end of the Mediterranean during the middle of the day. The signal was clearly 5x5 and not a hint of QRM or QSB. They also established contact on the first attempt and apparently the rig was not affected by German attempts to jam the signal.

These rigs must have been terrific. The tubes seemed unaffected by bumpy airplane rides, rough seas or hard landings and the batteries worked great whether in the cold of the snow covered Alps in winter or in the heat of the Mediterranean sun. And those antennas! I could hide one in my attic or just extend it in the shack!

It seems strange but I have found no mention of these super radios in non fiction books about the Second World War. (Could it be that they are still classified?). What I have found is a more realistic explanation of the difficulties of communication during the war and the equipment used. Voice communication (except broadcast) was used only by the regular armed forces and then for limited applications and short distances (a few miles). Clandestine communications such as what might have been used by Mr. Burton or Mr. Peck was via crystal controlled CW rigs and hidden wire antennas. Most of it was QRP

There is a new book out in paperback that is an oral history of the experiences of individuals involved in special operations during the war. "Behind The Lines" by Russell Miller is a series of interviews with those who received and decoded the messages from agents, those who trained the agents and the agent's own stories. Since the nature of their work involved transmitting and receiving information via radio it makes a fascinating read for hams. I haven't finished it yet but so far there is no mention of Burton's super radio.

PS: I went to the Huntsville Hamfest this weekend and I couldn't find a WWII radio there either.



**Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society**  
**P.O. Box 88**  
**Lilburn, GA 30048**

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐ **NEW MEMBER**  
☐ **RENEWAL**

## GARS USE ONLY

Date App Rcvd \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Pmt Rcvd \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Payment Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mem Appr \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Database \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Amateur Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_ License \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Novice \_\_\_\_\_ Technician \_\_\_\_\_ General \_\_\_\_\_

Advanced \_\_\_\_\_ Extra \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy)

ARRL Member Yes No Life

Interests \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to receive the GARZETTE newsletter by: US Mail Email (please check only one)

### Type of Membership

Individual \$30.00 annually

Student \$15.00 annually

Senior \$15.00 annually (over age 65)

Family \*\* \$35.00 annually

\*\* Available for family members residing at the same address

### Optional Contributions

Repeater Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Additional Family Members \*\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy)

License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life

Interests \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy)

License Class Technician General Extra ARRL Member Yes No Life

Interests \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society and understand that membership is subject to the approval of the Club.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**June GARS General Meeting****August 8, 2006 – Minutes**

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, President, opened the meeting at 7:30 pm

George Patsios, W4VMZ, gave an interesting talk on early days of Ham Radio. He had a copy of his first license which was issued in 1933. He also answered questions.

There was one former member that announced the ATSC Digital TV Measuring Seminar August 10 and 11 at GPTV.

The president, Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, read a list of volunteers that work behind the scene to provide support for the club. We gave them all a hearty round of thanks.

**Committee Reports:**

Membership – one new applicant who was voted into full membership.

Net – one new person has been added to the net control rotation.

Treasurer – a report was distributed and accepted without correction.

Activities – sign up for the dog show was distributed. It will be August 25, 26, and 27. It is the main fund raiser for the club and members were encouraged to sign up for shifts in four hour increments.

Up coming meeting programs include:

September – Radio Astronomy

October – Venture Crew

November – 506<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group presentation

December – Holiday party

Norm recognized GARS members that hold positions in the ARRL. They were thanked for their dedication and work.

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, reported that GARS member Sandy Donahue, W4RU, (ARRL South-eastern Region Vice Director) suffered a stroke last week and is recovering well. He hopes to be released from the hospital today.

Old business – the minutes from the July meeting were printed in the *Garzette* and were accepted with two corrections:

The date on the heading should have been "July" instead of "June", and

Andrea Hartlage's call sign was listed as KP4PWI instead of KG4IUM.

There was a discussion on the upcoming Tech-Fest and Chili Cook-off which will be held January 13, 2007.

An announcement was made regarding the Jamboree on the Air to be held October 21 for the Boy Scouts – operators are needed.

George Patsios announced that the Military Museum in the old courthouse in Lawrenceville is open and worth a visit.

Carter Bennett announced that he has a number of items of equipment available.

**Break**

Robin Cutshaw, AA4RC, gave a very interesting program on AMSAT, amateur satellite, history, current status, operating tips and web-site helps.

A motion was made and passed to donate \$100 from GARS to AMSAT.

An announcement was made that if anyone knows of any 14-21 year old youth interested in Ham Radio to contact the Venture Crew.

Prize drawings were held.

Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm

Prepared by Randy Collins, acting secretary

## **Help Wanted**

## **Public Information Officer**

Material from The ARRL Letter may be republished or reproduced in whole or in part in any form without additional permission. Credit must be given to The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League.



Do you know a boy or girl  
14 to 21 years old  
who wants to:

- Climb, hike, canoe, camp
- Talk on an amateur radio
- Have Fun
- Tell them about

## Venture Crew 73

We meet the first Tuesday  
of each Month, 7:30PM at  
Prospect United Methodist  
Church Youth room.

For more information Visit

[www.gars.org/crew73](http://www.gars.org/crew73)

or contact Ray Back:

Email [crew73@gars.org](mailto:crew73@gars.org)

Phone (770) 295-9174

### September

9 - 11 ARRL September VHF QSO Party

16 - 17 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest

16 - 17 ARRL International EME Competition

### October

14 - 15 ARRL International EME Competition

### November

4 - 6 ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW)

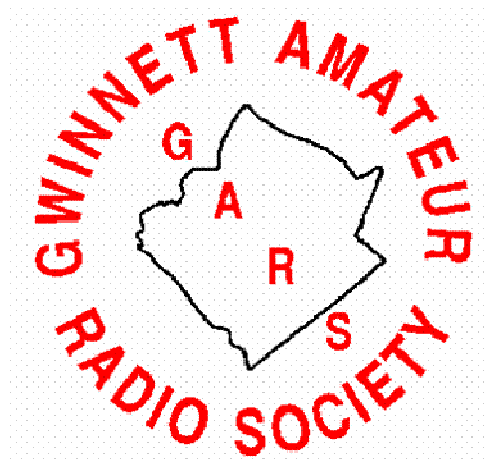
11 - 12 ARRL International EME Competition

18 - 20 ARRL November Sweepstakes (Phone)

### December

1 - 3 ARRL 160 Meter Contest

9 - 10 ARRL 10 Meter Contest



## The GARZETTE

The *GARZETTE* is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or email to [ka4kkf@arri.net](mailto:ka4kkf@arri.net). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary. In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

The *GARZETTE* is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Rick Patchin, KD4RFK does the final production work on *The GARZETTE* by folding & labeling. Bill Cherepay, WB4WTN, stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Norm Schklar, wa4zxv, manages email delivery. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors. Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For any additional information contact:  
Newsletter Editor:

David Adcock ka4kkf  
(770-271-9398)  
[ka4kkf@arri.net](mailto:ka4kkf@arri.net)

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048  
Attn: Newsletter Editor

## Gwinnett County ARES

Oct 7 - SET Simulated Emergency Test

### SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH -

National Preparedness Month is a nationwide effort held each September to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. This year, ARRL is once again a coalition member. National Preparedness Month 2006 is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The agency will work with a wide variety of organizations, including local, state and federal government agencies and the private sector, to highlight the importance of family emergency preparedness and promote individual involvement through events and activities across the nation. More information is available at [<http://www.ready.gov>](http://www.ready.gov).

Georgia ARES page <http://gaares.org/>

Gwinnett County page <http://www.gwinnettares.org/>

### GARS Apparel

Several items of clothing that feature our Club logo and/or your call sign are available to Club members. These items include polo shirts, sweat shirts, caps, jackets and other articles. Call sign badges can also be ordered. See Amy Woodrick, KE4IKF, at the next Club meeting for a listing of items and their associated costs.

### GARS Recurring Calendar

- Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Check the Web Site for Location.
- Every Monday at 8 PM local time: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2 meter repeater
- Every Wednesday at 9 PM local time: GARS 6 meter net on the GARS 6 meter repeater
- Every Saturday at 7:30 AM local time: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville
- 20th of each month: Deadline for submittal of articles for the following month's *GARZETTE*



## GARS

### APPAREL ORDER FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

CALL: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME TO BE EMBROIDERED: \_\_\_\_\_

CALL SIGN TO BE EMBROIDERED: \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM	SIZE	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
<b>T-SHIRT</b>				
Red WITHOUT name & call			\$20.00	
White WITHOUT name & call			\$20.00	
Red WITH name & call			\$20.00	
White WITH name & call			\$20.00	
<b>GOLF SHIRT -- WITHOUT name &amp; call</b>				
Red			\$24.00	
White			\$24.00	
<b>GOLF SHIRT -- WITH name &amp; call</b>				
Red			\$28.00	
White			\$28.00	
<b>SWEATSHIRT</b>				
Red WITHOUT name & call			\$30.00	
White WITHOUT name & call			\$30.00	
Red WITH name & call			\$30.00	
White WITH name & call			\$30.00	
<b>LIGHTWEIGHT JACKET -- RED ONLY</b>				
WITHOUT name & call			\$31.00	
WITH name & call			\$35.00	
<b>HEAVYWEIGHT JACKET -- RED ONLY</b>				
WITHOUT name & call			\$41.00	
WITH name & call			\$45.00	
<b>GARS BADGE -- WITH name &amp; call</b>			\$9.00	
<b>HAT -- WITHOUT name &amp; call</b>				
Red			\$9.00	
White			\$9.00	
<b>HAT -- WITH name &amp; call</b>				
Red			\$14.00	
White			\$14.00	

**TOTAL ORDER PRICE:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please attach your check made payable to GARS and return to Amy Woodrick, KE4IKF or mail to:*

**GARS**  
**P.O. Box 88**  
**Lilburn, Georgia 30048**

**NOTE:** Please allow at least 4 weeks for delivery of items. Some items may need to be special ordered.

Thanks and 73s! -- Amy KE4IKF

# Amateur (Ham) Radio in Action

9th Annual

## Tech-Fest & Chili Cookoff

January 13, 2007 10:00 till 2:00

Be sure to get it on *your* calendar

(Free Admission)

- **For the Non-Ham and Ham alike...** Your opportunity to see many modes and types of Ham Radio Equipment in action. Visit with knowledgeable operators demonstrating many aspects of Ham Radio. We'll answer questions, and show you how it works. Speak with local Amateur Radio Clubs and Societies to gain insight into how Hams are organized for Public Service, Emergency Communications, sharing technology ideas and having fun. Meet with Scout Leaders to hear how scouting and Ham radio intersect.
- **For Amateur Radio Organizations...** An opportunity to display your groups wares, a place to meet and swap operating experiences on a Saturday morning in January. A table to set up a display or banner. And you're invited to bring along a working amateur radio project.

Demonstrations are indoors, so weather should not be a problem. Free coffee, drinks and lunch are provided. Setup begins at 9:00. We'll open the parking lot for tailgating at 8:00. Tailgating is free. We will not be offering tables. An area of the parking lot will be designated for Tailgating, so be sure you are in the designated area before any setup.

*for more information:*

- Ray Back, [ki4grj@sback.org](mailto:ki4grj@sback.org)
  - David Adcock, [ka4kkf@arrl.net](mailto:ka4kkf@arrl.net)
- Check the web site for latest details*

[www.gars.org](http://www.gars.org)

GARS Appreciates these fine sponsors that support our great organization!

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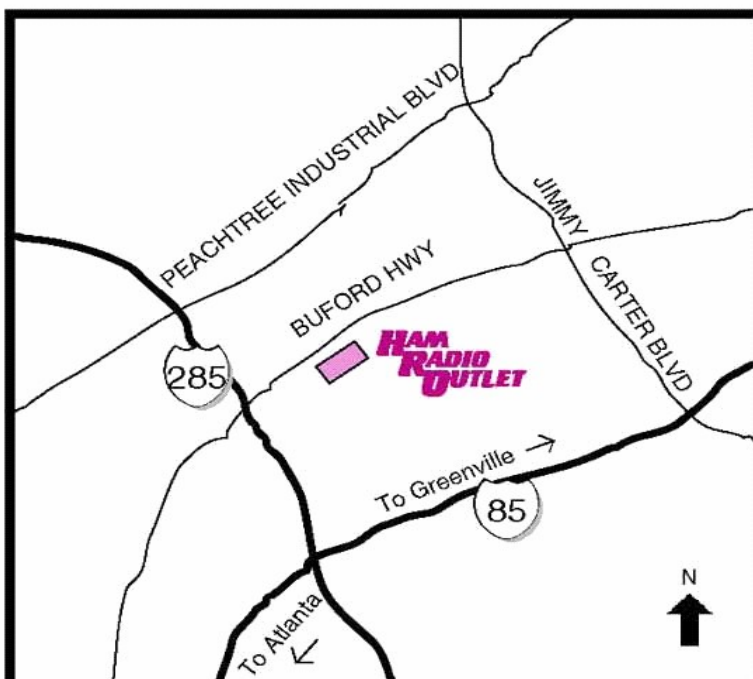
**Mike N4MLB**

**David KE4VDH**

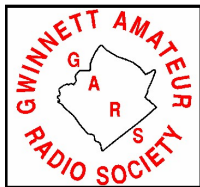
**Dale W4GCL**

**Bill KF8AZ**

**Josh W4JDH**



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Create  
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M2  
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Van Gorden



Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

PO Box 88

Lilburn, GA 30048

To receive the **Garzette** via e mail contact, please contact the membership chairman

**Saturday Morning  
Breakfast**

**Join us at the Golden  
Coral on Riverside Drive  
in Lawrenceville at 7:30  
a.m.**

***Next Meeting***

***Tuesday, September 12th***

***Meetings are on the***

***Second Tuesday of the  
month 7:30pm at the  
St Marguerite D'Youville  
Church, 85 Gloster Rd  
NW, Lawrenceville, GA  
30044.***

***Just off Highway 29 SW of  
Lawrenceville.***

***Directions on the Web  
Site.***

***<http://www.gars.org>***

**PRUDENTIAL  
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**\*\*References available upon Request**